SALAD DAYS
BRAND NEW STANDARD OF LOVE STORIES
戀愛季節 14
新正統派戀愛漫畫
INOKUMA Shinobu
猪熊 忍
日本小學館正式授權香港中文版

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SALAD DAYS

戀愛季節 14

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Everyone has experienced it, a time of bitter-sweet experiences in the stage of love. These are our "SALAD DAYS". Comprising of "Sayonara, Yuuki!" and others, 8 short romance stories about growing pains are contained in this 14th volume of the manga that has now become legendary among junior and senior high students!

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PART 1
Sayonara, Yuuki! (1/2)

SALAD DAYS 14

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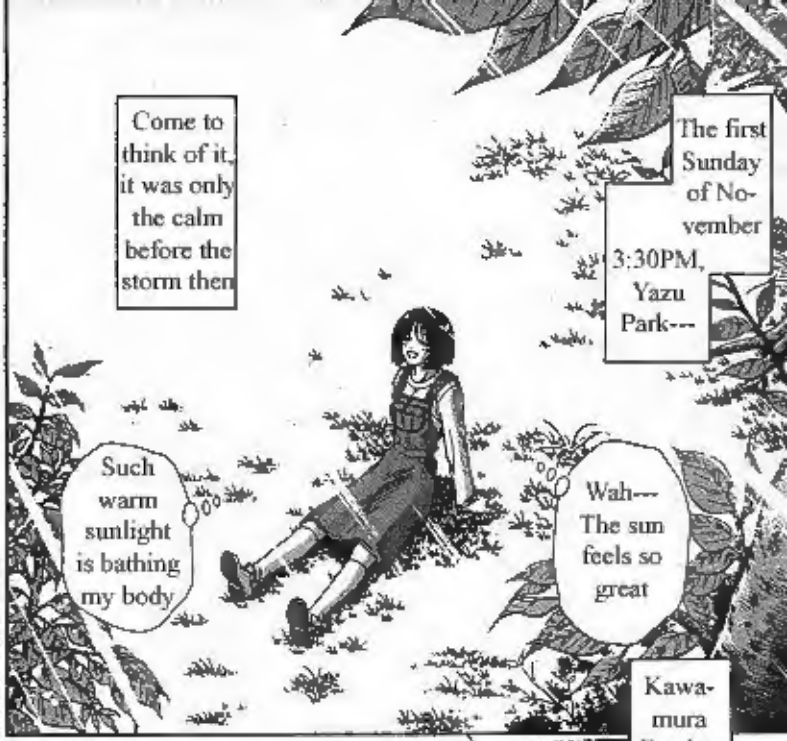
■ 猪熊忍 ■
Inokuma Shinobu

Are ya a-lone?
---I never thought the storm would come so quickly
---Ah?

I'm telling you there's no need...
Is that so? Let Ojisan accompany you then!
N...no can do. I still have to shop for dinner. I'm busy...
!?
Aww c'mon, don't say that...
What's this old coot doing...?
Can you join me for some tea?
It's nothing big. Ojisan's just feeling lonely by himself!


Come to think of it, it was only the calm before the storm then
The first Sunday of November 3:30PM, Yazu Park---
Such warm sunlight is bathing my body
Wah--- The sun feels so great

Yuuki will be thrilled too, right?
Since I'm in such a great mood, we're gonna have sukiyaki tonight!
So it's decided then!
A good thing's bound to happen on such a fine day, right?
Kawamura Futaba, fall of age 17
Hai?
Young lady!

5

7

4

*Co-op Yamashina

6

Go-men ne...
Un
You should watch out...
A... are you ok?

clutch

Knowing a weirdo like that lived around here, I feel a bit scared...
Huh?
Can you... accompany me when I do my shopping for these few days?
Ne, Yuu-ki!
Really? Thanks a lot!
Mm, okay

Un

This will make me happy too...
Huh ...?
Futaba, don't limit yourself to just today's events, you can rely on me for other stuff as well

Abu-nai ...
Ba-ka!

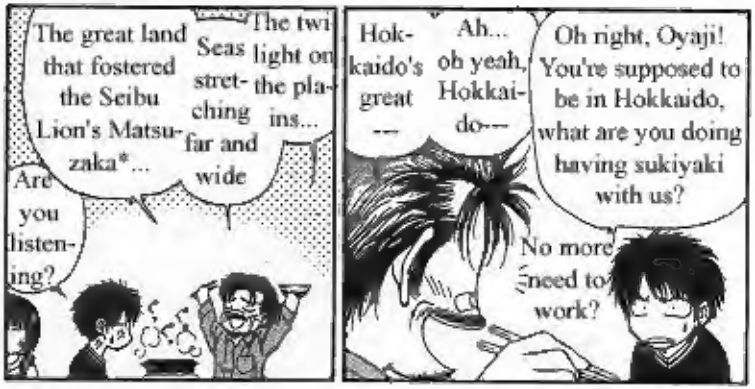
U-wah ...!

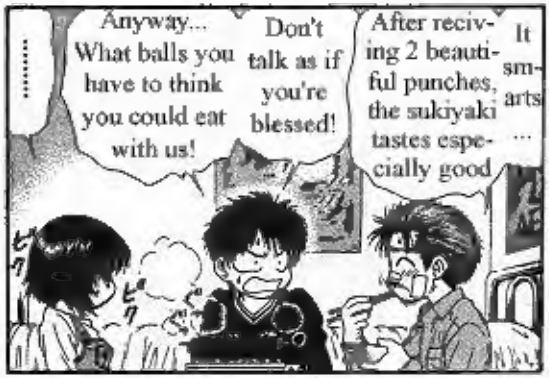
Ah

Un, okay
Yuuki, do you want another egg?
Hold on for a sec ...

Yaah—!
Hoooooo~♪
ばいーん
Ah?
Wah! You're from earlier...
IYA-AAA-AH!
What a coincidence! To bump into you here? That's quite strange!
Wah--- Save me! What's going on?
Fate has deemed we meet again. How about a kiss...
Ya-ah-ah
Oo...
Nani!?
You damn Oyaji!
You're not young any more! It's embarrasing!
One look at a girl and you go flirt!
Really, you never learn your lesson...
You... pack as mean a punch as ever... Yuuki...
He's... Yuuki's father?
O-yaji...?

*Daisuke Matsuzaka - Ace pitcher for the pro-yakyu team, the Seibu Lions


The great land that fostered the Seibu Lion's Matsuzaka*...
Seas stretching far and wide
The twilight on the plains...
Are you listening?
Hokkaido's great ---
Ah... oh yeah, Hokkaido---
Oh right, Oyaji! You're supposed to be in Hokkaido, what are you doing having sukiyaki with us?
No more need to work?


Anyway... What balls you have to think you could eat with us!
Don't talk as if you're blessed!
After receiving 2 beautiful punches, the sukiyaki tastes especially good
It smarts ...

But to think he said, "I hear Hokkaido girls are pretty" and suddenly asked for a transfer to the Hokkaido Branch...
That really troubled the whole family...
He used to be a top-notch journalist, even the company recognized that...
I'm really ashamed to talk about it. This guy ...
Ne... Yuuki, what kind of guy is your dad, huh?

Anyway, just think about it, okay?
...all say they want to be with their older brother...
Genta (younger brother), Raichi (younger sister) and Kiri (cat)...
Your mom says she's constantly thinking about you...

12

I haven't even decided whether to go or not...
What do I do? I'm gonna miss you...
I heard that you're going to Hokkaido! Is this true?
Oi! Yuuki!
It hasn't been decided! How many times do I have to say it?
As I said
Tell me your e-mail! ♡
Write letters to me now

14

Yuu-chan!
Yuu-chan!
Yuu-chan!

Ah, Fumika .....
わあああん
No way! I don't want you to go to Hokkaido---!

13

.....
Don't go crazy now
Good girl, I'm not going anywhere okay?
If you're going, Yuu-chan, I am too! We'll live together---
Though we weren't born by the same person, we're still siblings, so that will be ok, right?

15

It's not good...
Being far from you own family like this...
む
After all... This isn't natural!
W...what's going on? Why did you suddenly say that...?
My case is different...!
You're not with your folks either!
What right do you have to say that?
15
There's just no point... for you to be living alone
What's more... you have very loving parents waiting for you
I couldn't if I wanted to...
At least... for me...

Eh?
Ne--- ...Yuuki...
Geez, it sure was a busy day...
Futaba?
!
Yup. I really like my situation and lifestyle right now
Don't you think so, Futaba?
You're... really not going to Hokkaido?
16
Huh...?
I think... it's better if you go
You should go to Hokkaido...

It's not that I don't want to be with you .
Let's see... Un, that may be..
Yes, that is the case .
You're.. just being stubborn this way
Don't tell me you don't want to be with me
Fu-taba .
So that's it...
I see ...
But I

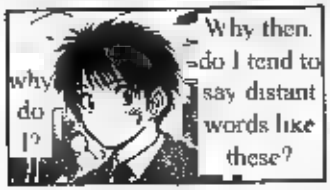
Oya-
lt's
me
ji?
"I love you! Do-n't leave me!"
The way I am now .....
How could I possibly say it?

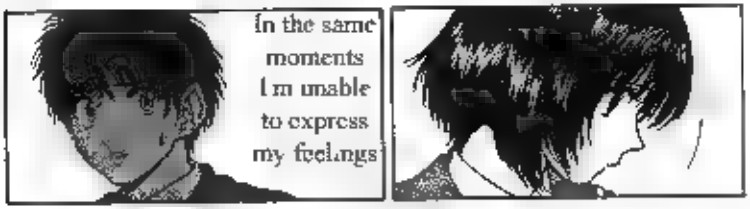
I've decided to
Yup
Co-op
Ya

PART2

Sayonara, Yuuki! (2-2)

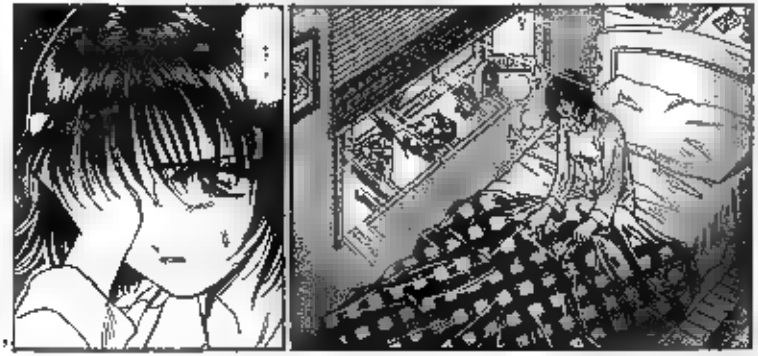
Back to Hokkaido with your family
I think it's better if you go
You should go to Hokkaido
As a whole family
- Yuuki do you want to come live with us?
Don't tell me you don't want to be with me
Yes that is the case -
Let's see I'm that may be





PART2

Sayonara, Yuuki! (2/2)



Wait ...Isn't Fumika's dad..
Otoo-chan!
Eh? Aren't you
Fumika ---- My you sure have grown
I, wah! I haven't seen you in the longest time ♡
Haha, so that's it, huh?
Fumika you transferred into Tohka as well?
I really have no idea.
But I have no idea how to deal with it...
It's excruciating-- But
Huh?
Kawamura-san
Ah?
It'll make you feel better
Wanna go get a delicious cold treat?
Ah It's you, Fumika
What's up? You look like you were run over by a truck!
Huh? This
C'mon, let's go!
Let's go ask him to treat us!
I'm on the way to see my dad!
TOHKA

Why did I get hit?
Yuu-chan, that big dummy ------!
difficult it is to get into such a prestige school
But it's still such a waste considering how
Eh
It's not as if I'm a delinquent
Just different moms that's all
I like Yuuki eh? You're my kid alright. sheer genius!
This father-daughter pair sure sure can talk candidly
This Saturday Yuuki is going to Hokkaido
What do you mean how come?
That boy said it himself that he's going
He phoned it yesterday
You lie
He personally told me that he wasn't going.
This is too sudden
That's not true. is it? How come?
Hu.
Saturday 11AM flight 61 bound for Sapporo that leaves from Haneda

Um
Say---
Futaba
Yuu-
ki
He said he's returning tonight. He even treated me and Fumi-ka out for some cold treats
No way? Oyaji is still in Tokyo?
WHA
?
Yuuko---
Don't leave me
I'll go to the airport... to send you off..
Don't go...
!?
If you want him This to stay will be your last chance
Lady, you like Yuuki a lot, huh?
201
KAWAMURA
Futaba
Um
Yuu-ki
Hi
Huh?
I already heard it from your father
I already know Saturday on the HAM fight

Yeah
Well I m sorry, hey
Huh
Don't leave me
Ano Yuuki
Well I gotta go
Huh
Yeah
2
Take care now
It's no-thing
So even at the very last 1
If you want him to stay This will be your last chance
Yuu-ki
.do I always tend to say such distant words---?
Why ...
11:00 AM Haneda Airport---
The 2nd Saturday of No-vember
And then ---
Why ...?
THU
FRI
SAT

I still couldn't honestly face up to him.

To the very end.

Yuuki!!!

...has ended
Our time
Yuu-ki

Actually I don't have a reason why
How can you be here? Why?
How the heck did this happen?
That old man of mine! It's the death of me!
Yo!
You're here? What for
Yeah? Yuuki
Hi Okay I'm here
Ohhh
You mean about me asking to live with us
This
What does it mean what for
Hel—loo
This
Hiya Futaba

O-kaeri Yuu-ki
Ha :
Ta-dai-ma
Un
CANDY
And to think I was anxiously waiting for his return
How can you do such a selfish thing?
Aww don't say that o-kaasan
You really sent Yuuki back?
Dan-na?
Yeah
...a lie ---!
Huh?
... was all ---
We've forgotten all about you a long time ago
---they're all lies! They could each care less
Genta and Raichi saying they want to be with their brother---
Your mom thinking about you---
So it's like that
Wah
You worthless old man
Go scram back to Tokyo
Idiot--- So stupid---
No shit? Haha, you were really fooled?
What a riot
You :
What the heck?
Wah haha haha haha!

It'd just be too cruel to pull them apart now
Those two still need time to think things through
It's much too early yet for them to realize each other's feelings
Come to think of it, that Yuuki has some talent
I wonder who he got that from!
Bah, who knows
What the heck are you babbling about!

PART3

Love Rehearsal

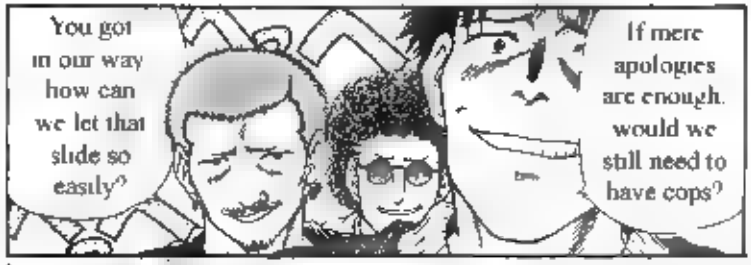
(1/2)

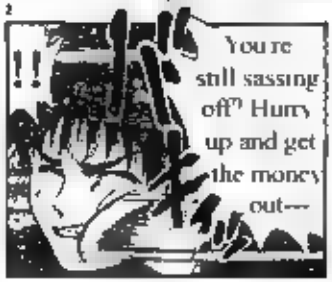
You've gotta be kidding At this day and age? Who still uses that method to shake someone down?

Let go of him at once
Ma taku. With this many of you big guys? Aren't you at all ashamed?

Go and scram
What are you trying to pull?

I just apologized already
what do you want?


You got in our way how can we let that slide so easily?
If mere apologies are enough, would we still need to have cops?


!!
You're still sassing off? Hurry up and get the money out---

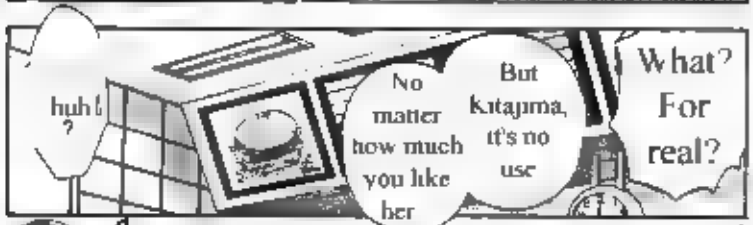
No way It's you guys who went my way I did nothing wrong
Show us the green

It's a girl!

I'm sure it's 'cuz you got caught by some thugs
It's no-thing ---
What are you doing with a band-aid on your face?
And you just took the abuse, right?
Urusai na---
Urusai Shut up already Saka-moto
I'm thinking about something right now
How can you survive this world just being passive and fair?
Ma-taku Who asked you to be so weak? Bullied no matter what
!?
Really?! What kind of girl is she?
WHA?!
I guess so
Huh ?
About what? Someone you like?
Ah. This
I'm off be care-ful k?
Hurry and stick it on
You're bleeding right here
She is so cool!
*class 2-6
Oi, Kita-jima!
2年6組

Huh?
..that was my older sister
I'm very certain
--- That no person is probably

*Convenience Burger
--- huh

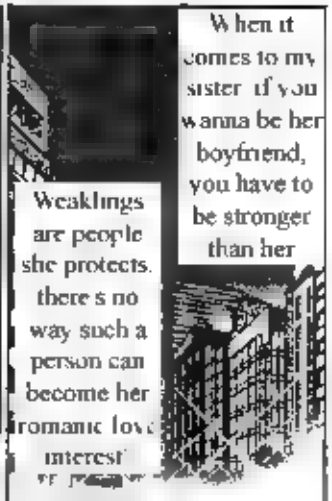

huh!?
No matter how much you like her
But Kitajima, it's no use
What? For real?

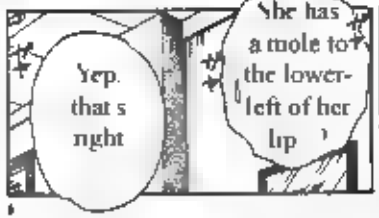
...And sported a denim jacket?
Wore a Yankees baseball cap ..

h!

Ow!
ah

I advise you to give it up


When it comes to my sister if you wanna be her boyfriend, you have to be stronger than her
Weaklings are people she protects. there's no way such a person can become her romantic love interest

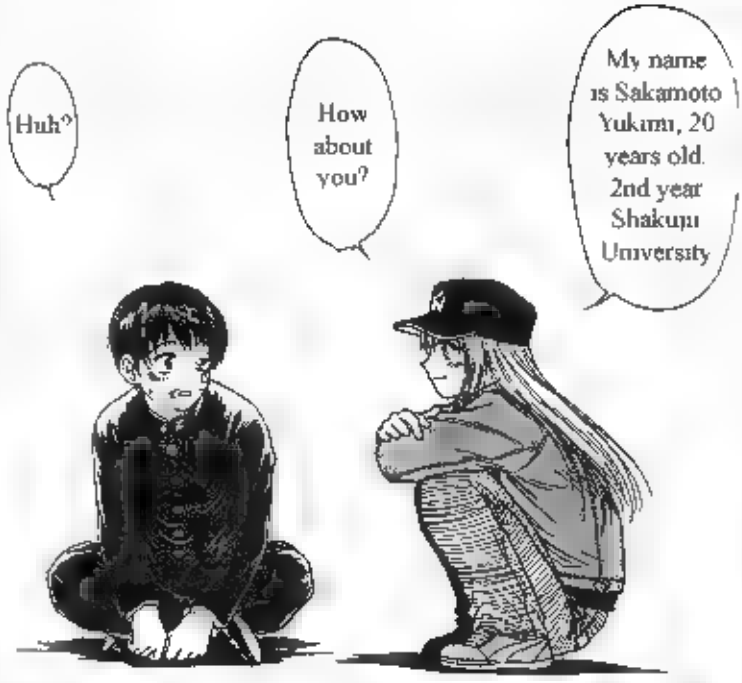

Yep. that's right
She has a mole to the lower-left of her lip

Strange how did you know?

Yep, she was just too awe-some
Beat up three thugs?
Waist-length straight hair?

She's appeared……!
She……
did you mean me?
By monster girl
Eh?
Hold on!
Well--- Let's give the bad guys a lesson.
It must be fate huh?
We keep bumping into each other
I should-n't ask for your help
Please don't intercede
I am at fault today!

That hurt…!
Ah! you were that twerp from yesterday!
Ah
We'll beat you half to death. then take your money
You'll take that monster girl's share of the beating too!
Ha ha ha
Seeing as you're here we're gonna screw you 100 times over!


Huh?
How about you?
My name is Sakamoto Yukimi, 20 years old. 2nd year Shakuju University

But

Haha-- Maybe I am
You are really stupid

Being a guy and all
I should show a little back-bone

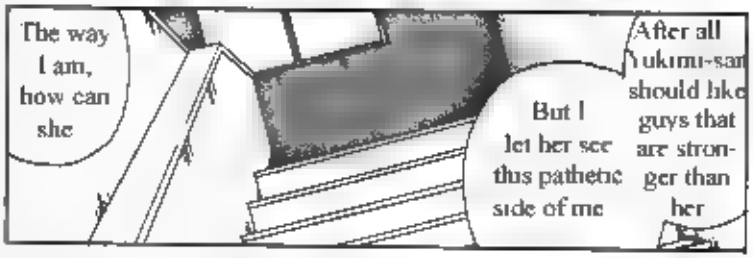
No, you're really strong
Shouldn't it be weak? I got beat up like this
you're really strong

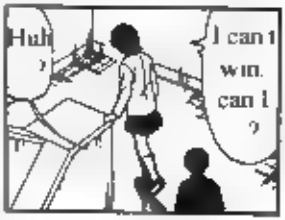
Oh yeah, are you free this Sunday?
Um. Itaru -kun.
My name is Kitajima Itaru, 2nd year Nozawa Public
Huh ?
Huh ?

You're not bad at all. I'm very inte-rested

Ah

It's nothing of course I'm very happy I just don't really get it
What? Be a bit more enthusiastic! What's with that face?
You're super lucky! Aneki actually asked you out!
Isn't this just perfect?


The way I am, how can she
But I let her see this pathetic side of me
After all Yukimi-san should like guys that are stronger than her


Huh?
I can't win, can I?

She chose her guy for his qualities.
What is the point?

I heard that you were going on a date with my sister this Sunday! Is this true?
Kita-juma!

How'd you get Aneki to fall under your thumb?
Yeah Anyway what's going on?
Did you hear it from Yukimi-san?

What happened
I-n. So that's

My sister asked you on her own?

Anyway Yukimi-san asked me on her own
Er, what do you mean under my thumb? How can you call it that?

Your date is a college student after all
If you've never even had experience kissing
You will be laughed at
Love Rehearsal, okay?
Why'd you suddenly do that?!
Yaah

on your date, okay?
Good luck

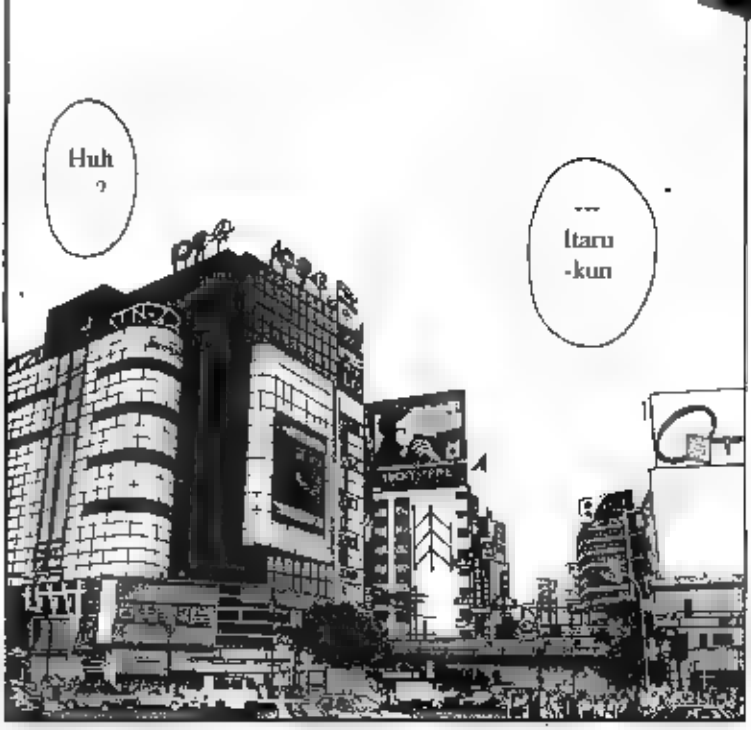
Sakamoto.?
Oi! Sakamoto!
Matte! Sakamoto!

What the……

*sign - Shibuya Station

Yup, got that right
I was so surprised, Itaru-kun is classmates with my sister
It's a small world after all---
Ah
Itaru-kun Over here Over here
Sun-day
渋谷駅
Huh? No I'm not
What's wrong? You don't seem very alert
Love rehear-sal

I'm actually thinking of another girl while on a date
Being a guy I shouldn't be like this, right ?
What's wrong with Makume?
Geez, what the heck am I thinking here?
Saka-moto. Why'd she go and do that?



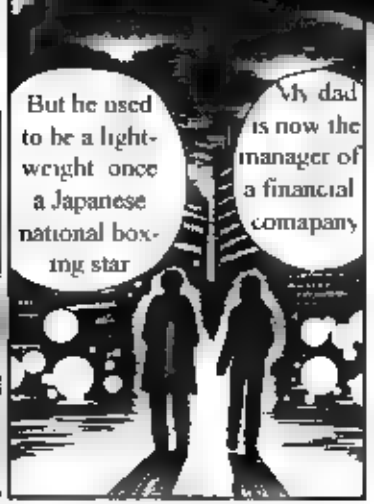
PART4

Love Rehearsal (2/2)

Really! I swear to God really
Really?
Huh? That's not true at all! It's not!
Itaru-kun. Don't tell me you're not happy being with me?
We're not sempai and kouhai though---
So think of us as equals
Even though I'm 3 years older
Then don't be so formal with me
Ah. Gomen. Yukimi-san.
Really now! You were spacing out again!
I unwittingly thought back to that incident
--- this is bad
Why did she go and do such a thing?
That Sakamoto
I really don't get her. What was she thinking?
You said it right ma'am
Mou! There you go again
Um, just like that!
That's right! This
!
Hm?
And what's more is, we're on a date here

*Editor's note: That was the best I could do to distinguish casual from polite language

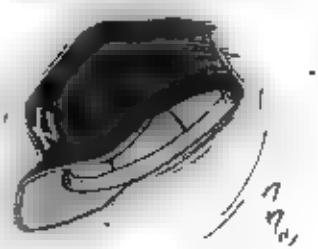
That's why No wonder you're so strong, Yukimi
So before I knew better, I learned a lot of boxing moves
Though I'm clearly a girl


But he used to be a lightweight once a Japanese national boxing star
My dad is now the manager of a financial company

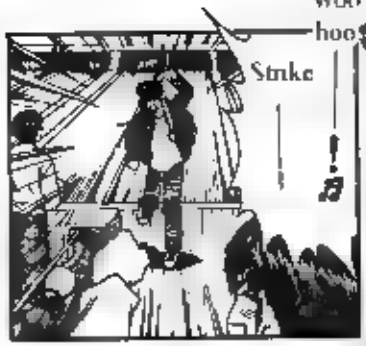
Ah?

I wondered about this before too
I'm clearly a girl why did I learn these things?

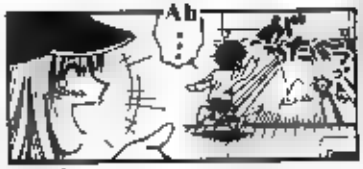
But it's not exactly useless, right?



I got to know you
Thanks to boxing


Woo hoo
Strike!!

スコーナ


Ah!

Just a low-level detective that can never hope to be promoted
Wow— So your dad is a policeman Itaru-kun?

Heh— So this is where Itaru-kun's strong sense of justice is from
One should never lie, conceal truth, or act in an unjust manner!
A real man should live an honest and proper life!
I get it now
This is my dad's motto

The way things are now there's really nothing I should conceal
With a girl in my class
It was three days ago---

Th-Three days ago?
How can that be?
After all

Huh?

Love Rehearsal

If you've never even had experience kissing, you will be laughed at
Your date is a college student after all

I'm actually the one who's too modest
It's not too strange for you to have an experience or two on kissing.
Hahaha. is that right ?
Itaru-kun is HS junior after all

I'm still a little jealous
But
It wasn't as she said!

What kind of girl was she?

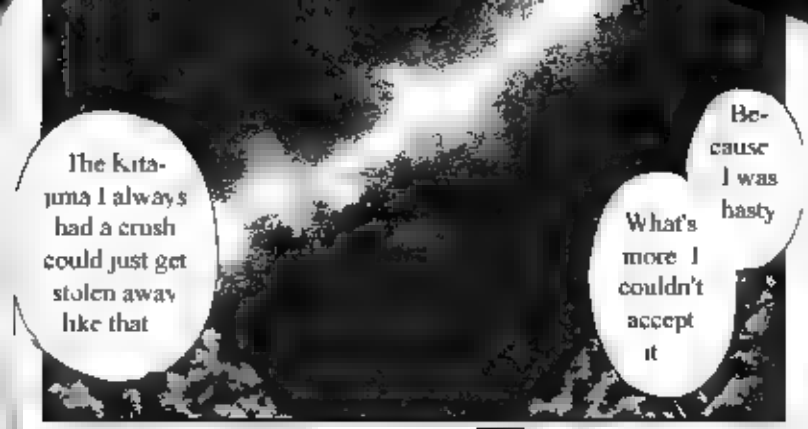
I'm

A real man should live an honest and proper life!

No. It's not
No. When did this happen?

Good bye
Looks like I got you wrong
You're a two-faced, cold-hearted, uncommited man
Act as if today never happened
!!
It's me, Sakamoto
Hey
I need to talk to you
Hey you got time to go out for a bit?
What is it?
Ah. So it is.
No. the younger sister
I-is. it you Yukimi?
What's more. that was your first kiss
And the next day you and another girl
We agreed to go on a date 4 days ago, right?
N- no! That girl isn't actually
If you already had a girl you liked you should've made it clear from the start
Don't you know you hurt me more this way?
Itai

..My sister really liked you a lot
B- but
Why did you tell her even about this?! You are just too damned honest!
WHAT?
Do you have a mental condition?
八頭公園
What the heck is up? Sakamoto? It's this late already
Kita-jima
I nearly laughed to see her so excited about this date
it was so funny
Last night, she was blubbering like a kid..
That kiss of yours What exactly did it mean?
Yeah, that's right
W-wait a minute here This
It was like that and yet you
If there's someone to blame it'd be you
This is all your fault for suddenly running up and kissing me
What the heck did you do
Considering the kind of person Aneki is, she cried terribly when she got home
This
Huh
You
What did you do to my sister?


The Kitajima I always had a crush could just get stolen away like that
Because I was hasty
What's more I couldn't accept it

But
I also regretted acting like that
Of course I felt worthless and ashamed too
I was envious

...intended to hurt my sister
I... never.

What else is there to say?
This...
Huh?

...
Speak up, Sakamoto!

!!!?

Of course it's because I like you ---!

*sfx - Ah-hahaha
あっはは
This is just so like you, Katajima! I understand Go now!
Um!
Being a guy and all
I should show a little backbone
I really .. like it a lot...
This slightly dumb, but firm way of thinking of yours .
...sorry, Sakamoto!
Thank you! And

Where to?
I'm going now
#!!!

For a beating
To Yukimi...

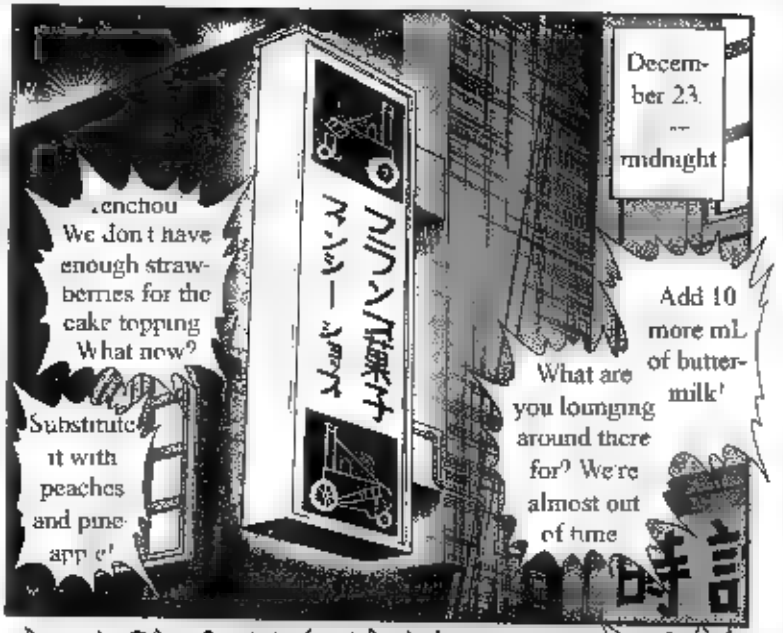
That's why I should suffer Yukimi's punishment
So I'm a bad guy
I'm a bad guy to have made a girl cry, right?
Huh?

After all I managed to give my first kiss to the person I liked
It's painful but I never expected to be so lucky
should go find a good romance
I guess I just lost a romance
Sorry
It's true that I said to hit me if you like me
Aww Yukimi –
Kita-kun Cut Sadie
You should be satisfied enough that I've forgiven you
I was just a tad pissed at the time
Sure it was a little much
Don't be so ungrateful!
But beating me up like this
First aid kit

*Nozawa Station
Shopping District
ART6
Exciting Christmas
Yup. bonbon
ni bonbon. I
really am free
on the 24th
I'll take
where you
Actually,
the busiest
day for us

PART 5 Exciting Christmas
エキサイティング・クリスマス

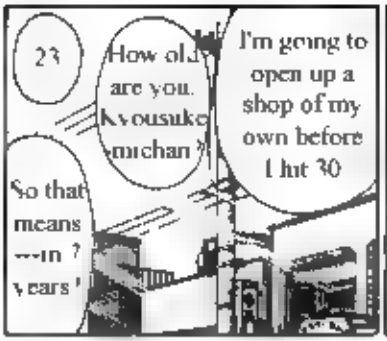
*Sign Fancy French Pastry Shop


December 23
--
midnight
Add 10 more mL of buttermilk!
What are you lounging around there for? We're almost out of time
時ロコ
Yenchou We don't have enough strawberries for the cake topping What now?
Substitute it with peaches and pineapple!

Next
Whew Finally completed another one!
Continue working
Don't forget to apply the glaze evenly
You don't have to pry off the strawberry stem!
The wreath on the left! The chocolate in the middle!
Gah! Baka The santa should be on the right!

Is that for real? That's so unfair--- I'm jealous ---
Ah--- The one called Yuu-chan, right?
This romantic fool is spending the night with his girlfriend
Ha ha
It's nothing just
Huh?
The 346th is Kyousuke's
Cheers
Wah- daylight's already broken
You guys did a good job this year too!
I'm so tired ---
Odd? Tenchou, didn't we only get 355 orders?
346 ones! It's the highest record we've ever had so far!
Now that I look at it- we really did make a lot
T-tenchou Didn't you promise me you'd keep it a secret!
What~~~!?
But what's more embarassing is he's planning to propose to her tonight
Kyousuke -san- -chan!
Ah
You're basically committing a felony! A felony!
Isn't Yuu -chan just a senior in high school?

It can't be helped. It's the one day in the year with the most orders
Come to think of it, you guys have it hard -having to bake in the wee hours like that


23
How old are you, Kyousuke-michan?
I'm going to open up a shop of my own before I hit 30
So that means --in 7 years!

So it isn't tiring
In a way this is a necessary foundation for the future

Haha haha --?
Hee hee hee hee hee

will be 16 by then
7 years, huh? Kana

Oh, it's Kana-chan --
Oha-you

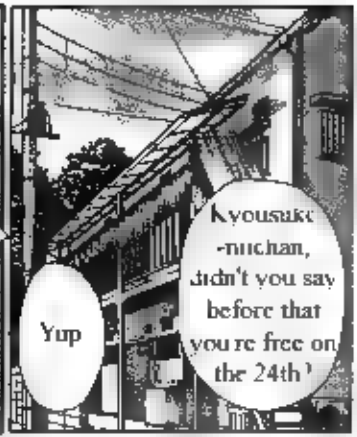
Walk me home? You know you can't barge into the baking room like this
What's up? What are you doing up so early?
I'm here to walk you home!

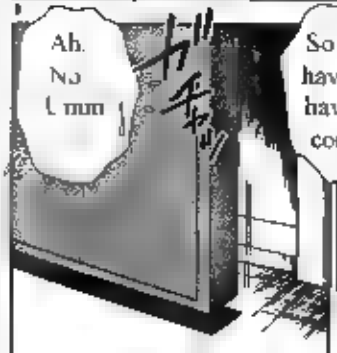
I'm Kikuchi Kana, age 9, grade 3 Nozawa Elementary
Ah, she's my next door neighbor
Who is this little girl?

Hm?
Let's walk home, kay?

No, aren't you done already?
Please! Stop the dirty thoughts!
You make a move on her and you'll get locked up for sure
Oh, it's Kyousuke.

*Christmas Party Invitation

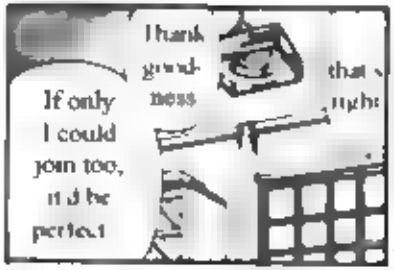




Haku
メリークリスマス

Did I do some thing wrong
Mou--- I hate Kyousuke -nichan the very most!

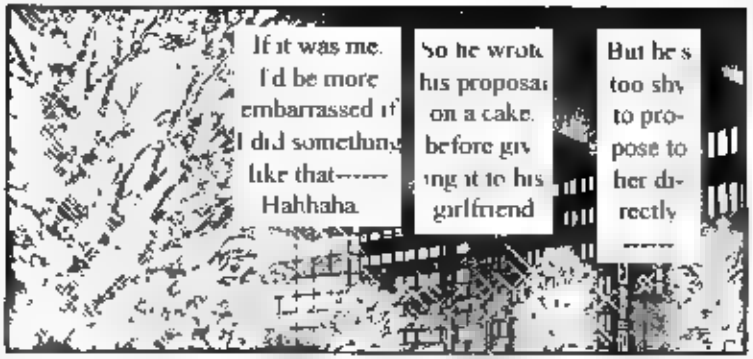
Hah Kana Where'd you run off to so early?


If only I could join too, it'd be perfect
Thank goodness
that's right

Ah that's right the omusan next door is coming to the party ne
Now where

Well I'm going then Make sure all the doors and windows are secure
Didn't you really want a teddy bear I'll buy you one as a present
I'm okaa-tsukete ne
ガチャ

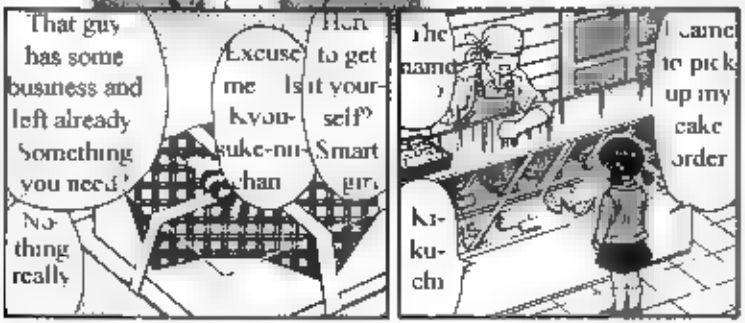
I'm really sorry Kana
It can't be helped you have to go to work


If it was me, I'd be more embarrassed if I did something like that------ Hahhaha
So he wrote his proposal on a cake, before giving it to his girlfriend
But he's too shy to propose to her directly ------

She got Kyousuke-nichan all to herself
Engagement
How can that girl be so lucky?
It's so unfair

I'm the only one that's all alone...

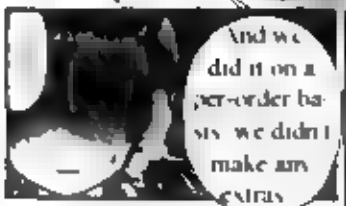
Hello everyone
You're the little sister from earlier
Irasshaimase
Huh?

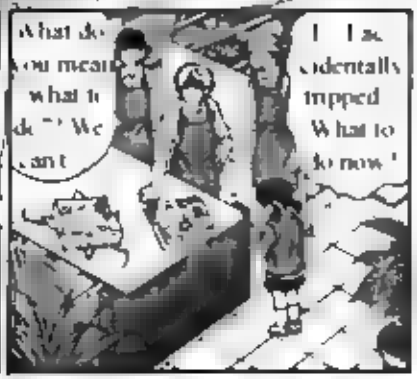

That guy has some business and left already Something you need?
Nothing really
Excuse me Is Kyousuke-nichan
How to get it yourself? Smart girl
The name?
Kikuchi
I came to pick up my cake order

Han?
I heard he was planning to propose to his girlfriend tonight
Huh?
Kyousuke must be really happy right now

Ah
Alright I got it Wait for a bit and let me re-decorate it
And I'm a baker of cakes
But she is still a custo-mer
Don't mind her she's just being a stubborn little kid.
Oh is this alright? For-ou-suke
Isn't this the way it should be?
I can't let my happiness come first
The cus-tomer's cry-ing already I can't feign ignorance

What happened to this cake?
Wah! What the heck hap-pened?

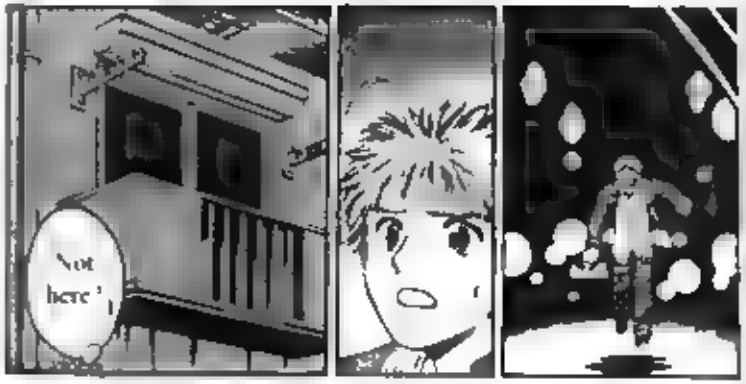

And we did it on a per-order ba-sis we didn't make any extras


What do you mean what to do?! We can't
I ac-cidentally tripped What to do now!

Huh
Then give me your cake For-ousuke-nichan

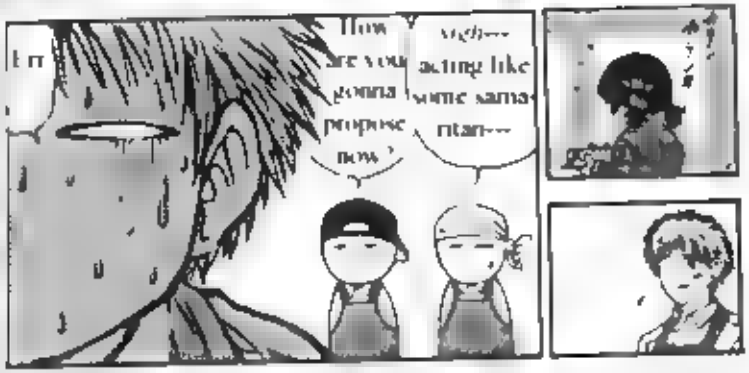
No but This is
please
I know you still have one more

!?


Not here!

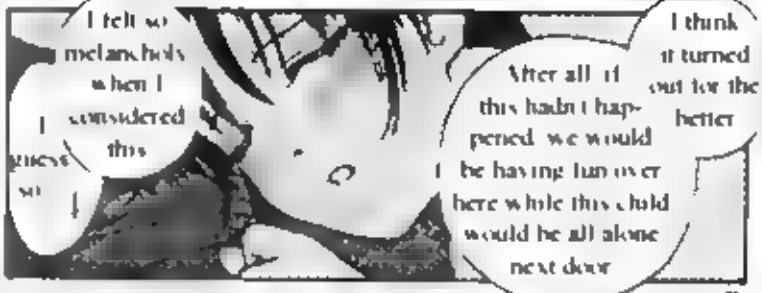
Ari-
ga-
tou
Ah
Here, it's
done. Be
careful not
to trip
again

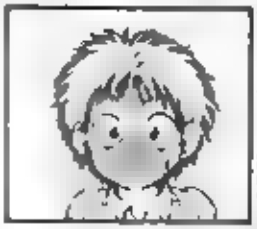
I won't
get to put
this into
play after
all
I
guess
I can't
blame her
It isn't even
the 24th
anymore
Probably
got mad
and went
home


Err
How
are you
gonna
propose
now?
Stop
acting like
some sama-
ritan---

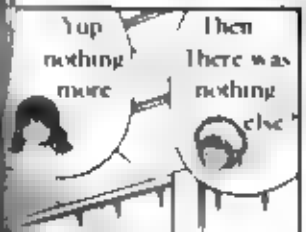
Why do
we also
have
to
Urusai
Don't just
stand around
over there
and a hand
Looks
like this
isn't the
day you
propose
Haha
You ought
to know
how much
time one
takes
Huh?
And
start
now?
This is
bad. I'll
just have
to make a
new one

But --
Un... the fact that she lied was a bit much
Hontou? That's just too much!
Un, it wasn't ruined because she tripped, she deliberately wrecked it
That wrecked Christmas cake
Kana-chan!


I felt so melancholy when I considered this
I guess so
After all if this hadn't happened we would be having fun over here while this child would be all alone next door
I think it turned out for the better



This really is the best Christmas present!
Besides, it also let me see this warm side of Kyousuke


Yup nothing more
Then There was nothing else!

!?
Be quiet!
Shh!
Quit being so noisy! Just be quiet, or you'll wake Kana-chan up!
Why? Can't I be here?
Yuri-chan Strange! Why are you here?

She kept waiting for you saying she had to apologize
What's Kana-chan doing here too?
Huh!?

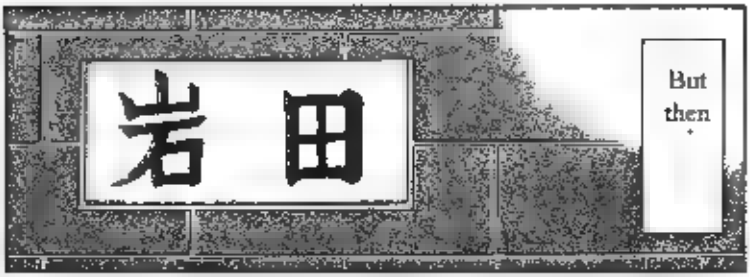
Huh? Kana-chan?

Which do
we ope
first?

We supported each other, divided responsibilities, happily living together as one
Time sure flew by Okaasan has been dead for 7 years--
Otoosan and your two kids --

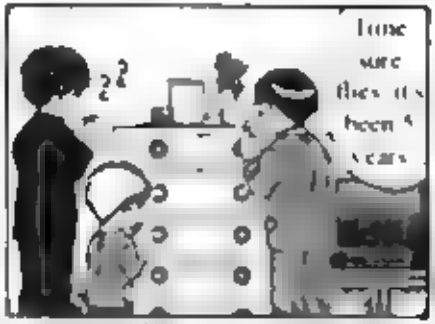
PART 6

Brother, En Garde!



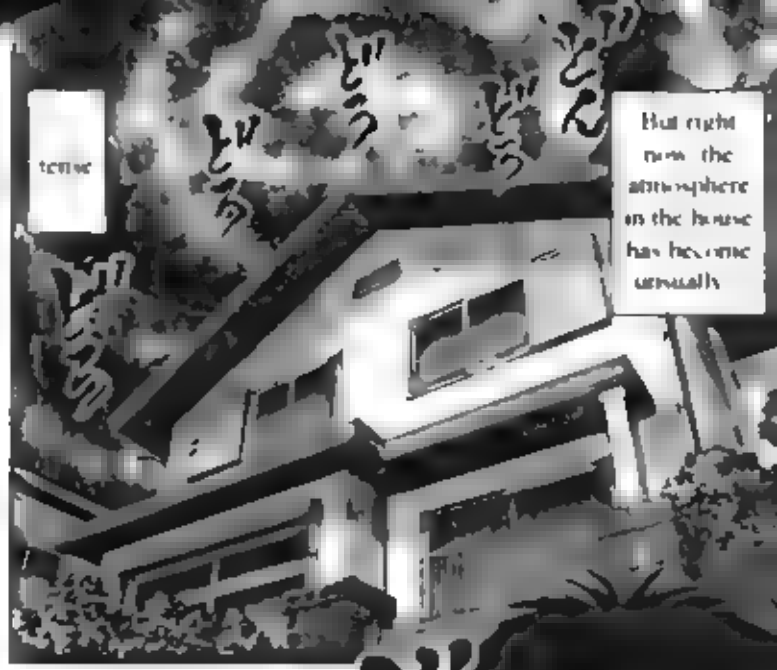
*Iwata

What's the matter? Why so tense so early in the morning?


I'm sure it's been 4 years

I'm not being bashful! Leggo of me!
Leggo of me! I don't need you to accompany me!
Wow... no need to be so bashful

Hurry up! I am so! Let's go, to the kindergarten!
Oh yeah I have some matters to discuss with you two

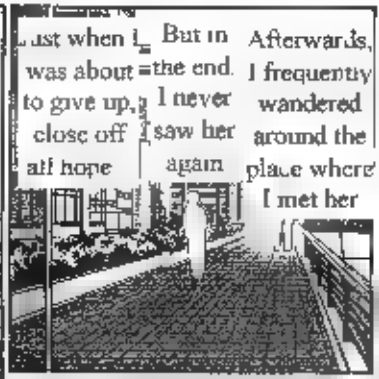

tense
But right now the atmosphere in the house has become unusually

Excuse me

More than a month ago
I walked past a girl that I didn't know
Even though I just walked past her
And in that moment, I just simply fell in love with her

I didn't know at all where she lived
Not her age or even her name
The only thing certain was my feelings for her. So it was a bleak romance

*Nozawa Kindergarten


Afterwards, I frequently wandered around the place where I met her
But in the end, I never saw her again
Just when I was about to give up, I close off all hope

Waaah
Ohayou! Tamio -kun
You're energetic as usual
Sensei, ohayou ---!
It's so unfair I wanna be a kid too
Bastard he actually touched his teacher like that

I'm really sorry if there's anything, we can talk about it casually next time!
Ha! I'm coming
Momoko-sensei! It's almost time for morning assembly
That's why I gave you an opening
What? Didn't you say before that you wanted to confess to Momoko sensei?
Tamio, you little runt!
What are you breathing such a huge sigh of relief for?
It's really so embarrassing
And to think I helped you so much
If you have no intentions of confessing, then don't ever come near Momoko-sensei
Wh What the hell
Basically I'm disillusioned
Looks like aniki is just an all talk and no action kinda guy

It's nothing! I'm just the one taking care of my brother now
You big liar!
Why haven't I seen your father around lately?
Ah. Konnichiwa, sensei ohayou
Tamio-kun's brother ohayou
Oh yeah! Momoko-sensei!
Isn't that right? Aniki
What?
Just to let you know--- It seems like aniki has something to say to you---
Ta
Huh?
I- it's nothing Thus.
What is it? Onisan
Tamio, that bastard---!

Watch out now!
Is this for real?
If you dare stop me, you'll taste my wrath!
Unlike you, I'm not all words and no action!
I will confess!
I definitely will ---!
Don't look down on me ---!
Its hinderances can't amount to anything ---
He says that but it's just the joking words of a kindergartener, right
You're just a little brother you have no right to preach me
Right now just wasn't the right time!
What?
Then I'll hinder you
For sure!
for sure!
She comes!
Don't think so much concentrate and confess
Huh?
Momoko-sensei
fallen in love with Momoko sensei's way, way before
Because compared to aniki I've already

Tamio would suddenly spring out of nowhere

Since then, everytime Shouji wanted to confess to sensei

And then ---

Always doing all sorts of things that'd get adults into deep trouble if they did it

And do *things* to Momoko sensei-

I'll never get the proper atmosphere to 'confess' this way

Tamio that runt always using the 'kids don't know better' act to beat me

A week passed just like that

Tadaima

Dammit I took him too lightly

What should I do now!

Yah!

Mataku

Hehe hehe gomen sensei gomen

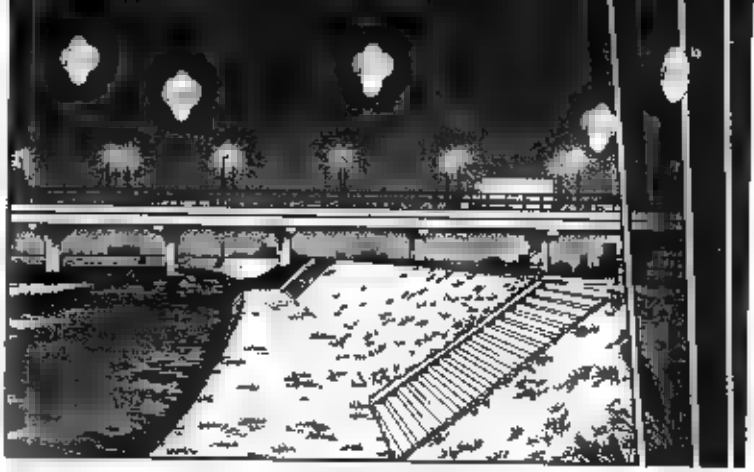
Tamio -kun!

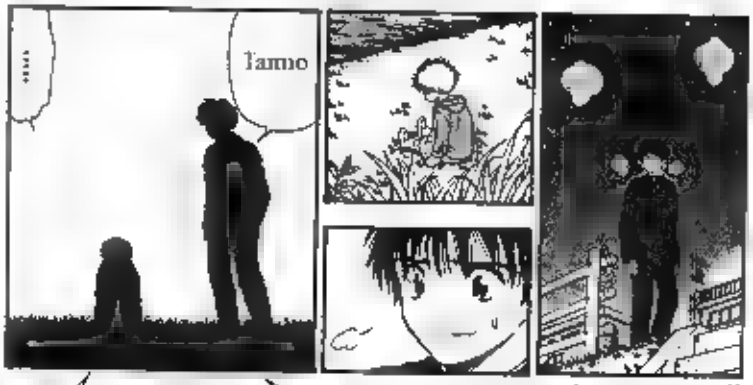
Hi-doi!

I thought I heard someone call me just now

... That's odd!

Nose: nosebleed




Tamio

13

I don't want it...
I don't want some new mother!

No!
Let's go home. otoosan's worried

Tamio?
Huh ?
!?
Ah. Shouji. you're back
Oi oya ji

12

Did something happen?
Why'd Tamio rush out like that?

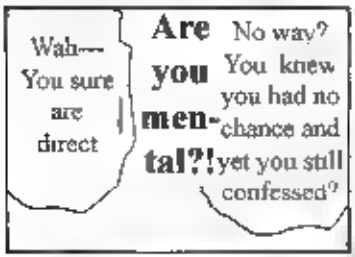
The one I'm planning to marry is going to come by a little later
Huh?
To be honest--- Shouji, otoosan is planning to 're-marry'

Tamio-kun.
Shouji-onnsan
Hahaha, I don't care how many times I confess
Underhanded! I'm sure you're using this to trick me. The truth is we're just going back home, right?
Chikusho -- I hate adults the most
Momoko-sensei. I've always liked you a lot!
Liked you a lot as a girl!
Huh?
Momoko sensei?
Tamio he's the same. he likes you a lot!
So

You idiot! I meant go to Momoko-sensei's!
I'm going to confess to her
Huh?
No. I'm never gonna go back to that home again!
Wa- Let's kat go. teru okay?
Or are you all words and no action too?
Huh?
You're coming too, right? You're going to find a way to hinder me, right?

?
?
!?

Un


Wah--- You sure are direct
Are you men-tal?!
No way? You knew you had no chance and yet you still confessed?

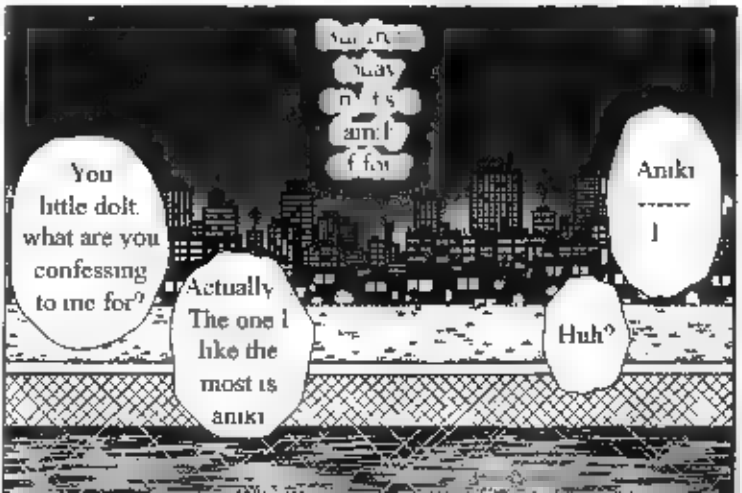
Is Momoko -sensei. What a predica-ment
The one oyaji plans to marry
Huh?

So dumb
So dumb

What I mean is ... From today on---
Us three in the family will have to bother you to care for us!

It's not fair
It's so manly of you

We supported each other, divided responsibilities, happily living together as one
Otoosan and your two kids
Time sure flew by Okaasan has been dead for 5 years-
Let's go home, anno

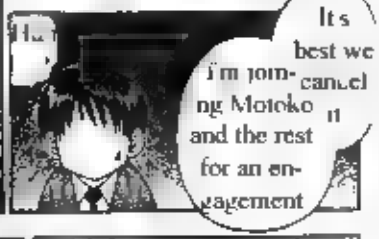

You little dolt. what are you confessing to me for?
Actually The one I like the most is aniki
Aniki ----- !
Huh?

PART7

Parting Words on Millenium Eve

While we're on the subject, I'll be working and going on trips during the break. I won't have time to dawdle with you!
So, it's like that

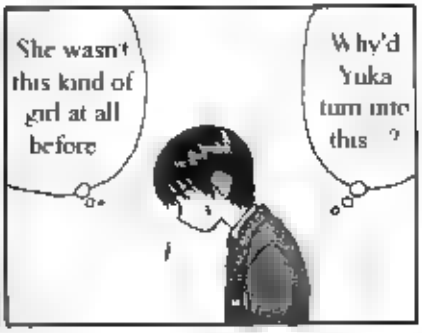
Yup, that's right! Where to?
Oh yeah. Akio! Didn't we agree to go somewhere for New Year's Eve?


It's best we cancel it
I'm joining Motoko and the rest for an engagement

Kuso

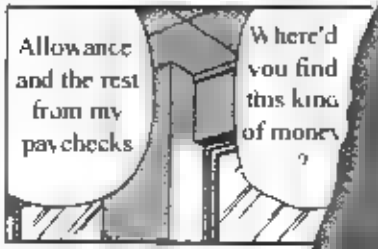
Wait Yuka!
Bye now ♡

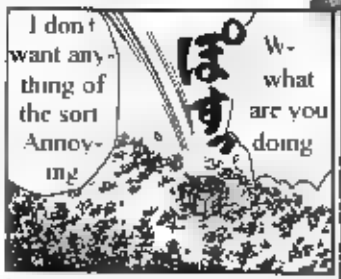
So we've made it to the so called, "steady", right?
We've been going out for a year and a half---
AURA
DinG

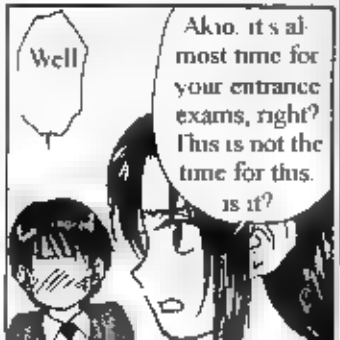

She wasn't this kind of girl at all before
Why'd Yuka turn into this?

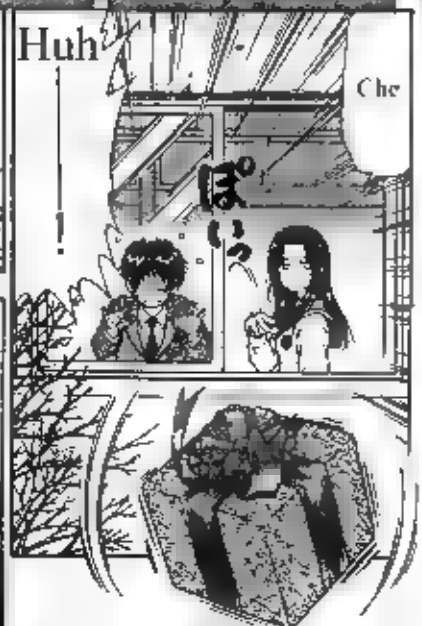
A ring...?
Yuka! Isn't today your birthday?

It's a ring!


Allowance and the rest from my paychecks
Where'd you find this kind of money?


I don't want anything of the sort. Annoying
ぽすっ
W-what are you doing


Well
Akio, it's almost time for your entrance exams, right? This is not the time for this, is it?

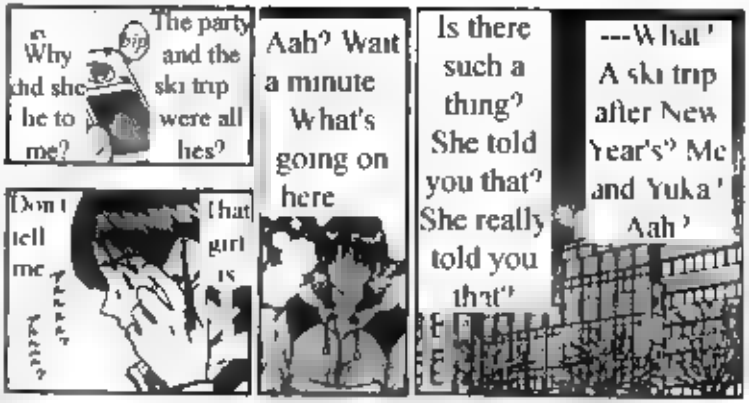

Huh!!
Che
ぽい?

What .?
I once saw Kawase with Yoshida from section 7 on the street together Seemed pretty ose
Ah, speak- ing of which
In fact I m the one who feels lonely!
But I don't feel that I've ever cast her aside or made her lonely!
Stop it! Don't say any more!
The guy seems to have had an interest in Kawase since 1st year
I think Yoshida s in the escalator class too
No way ...?
Aren't you ov erreac ting
Ah-hah? You re angry?
I'm ang ry now! I'm lea- ving!
No matter what you say, I still believe in Yuka!
That guy is too gullible getting angry like that Fun
I was fooling with him of course
Going back to what you said just now

I'm sure of it!
I'm sure it's be- cause of a 'guy'
m a male support cast
Just way out of the league of us lowly examinees
After all she's in the escalator class, right?
Where s your proof of that?
I'm a/ l male support ast
I thought so too
What ?
Right?
Everyone says that at the be- ginning
Yuka is not that kind of person
At a time like this once she meets ano- ther guy
She'd feel lonely with her boyfriend casting her aside
Assured of a school early on of course she d want to have her fun
Of course he d want to leave you He he
ずーん

It's pissing me off!
What the heck is this girl up to?
!?
I just have this one wish
That's why at least for now I wish to be around her more
Why ...?
After graduation, we won't be able to see each other everyday like this anymore
Yuka's next escalator school is a girl's college---
December 31 2000---
Why ...?

Didn't I already tell you I'm calling it off!
Umm About New Years Eve
Ah Yuka! It's me!
Hai
Yeah what is it?
Nope! I'm going skiing with Motoko and the others
What about after New Years? Free up at least a day
No can do! I still need to go to work!
I know but I meant after your parts
That doesn't sound right
But Aki has to prepare for exams
!!
What's up with you?! Who's more important? Your friends or you boyfriend?
.....
don't love me anymore Is that it?
Don't tell me you


Why did she lie to me?
The party and the ski trip were all lies?
Aah? Wait a minute What's going on here
Is there such a thing? She told you that? She really told you that?
---What! A ski trip after New Year's? Me and Yuka! Aah!
Don't tell me
That girl is

!?

What are you doing wandering the streets?
Terashima Motoko
Huh!
Che
All alone on New Year's Eve
Huh! Akio-kun!

Ah!
What are you talking about? Isn't Yuka going on a date with you?
Huh!
Besides Yuka who else is going?
I know
Tonight I'm holding an engagement at my place

What ...?
She refused to join no matter how hard I pleaded I even told her you could come along too!

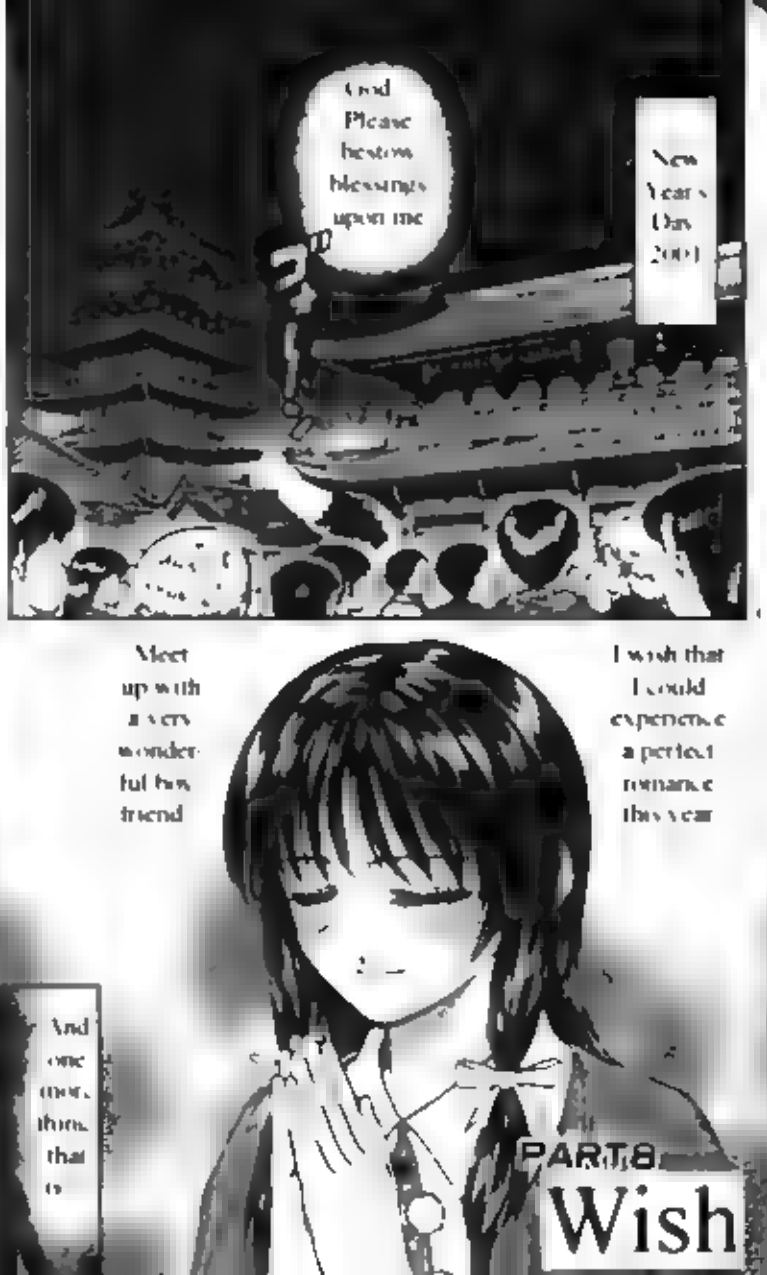
Let's... break up...
What are you talking about? Isn't Yuka going on a date with you?
Wha
Akio
Yu ka
I'm sure it's because of a 'guy'
Ah !
So this is the situation
So that's how it is
That person is
You've got it all wrong!
Wait for me!
Wait a minute! Akio!
It's over
It's over now
That's enough Yuka
to seriously focus on the exams
It's also about time for me
I've been in turmoil all day over you I'm tired now

*plaque - Shakuju University
And then April came
I finally made it into a first-rate university
I really concentrated on my studies
After that
So much that I was unable to think of Yuka
Completely unable to think of her
I didn't join graduation ceremonies either. I just hit the books everyday
I even will much missed attending the 3rd semester cause I didn't want to bump into Yuka)
I'm really sorry...
パパパパーン
I'm sorry...

Even though Yuka told me not to tell you ...
W- what the hell? What are you trying to say?
I thought so, who asked you to keep avoiding her
First time I've heard of it
You didn't even care to answer your phone
But if even you couldn't be clear on the way Yuka is, it'd just be too unfair
Of course I'm glad to have these but also sad
Taking me out to have fun buying me gifts
Usually prioritizing me over himself
Akio's just too accommodating
So I presently have no choice but to keep my distance
I even intentionally hurt his feelings
If because of me, he failed to advance, I'd have caused him to suffer for another year
---
Akio-kun
Terashima Motoko? Your hair is longer?
Hisashiburi
I'm here to find you
Huh? Then why?
No, that's not it
Huh? Do you study at this school too?
Huh...
Did you know? Yuka didn't go to her escalator school, she went to study in America

Congrats on your entrance to college
!!
She said that you'd make it into the school of your choice for sure
And told me to give this to you once I saw you Akio-kun
Yuka isn't even in Japan anymore. what good are matching rings?
What a waste
Really
Yuka She really loves you very much
Kawase Yuka is very considerate
Nice very considerate
And still to the very end
misunderstood her till the very end
But I on the other hand
Matching rings.....?
Open it up and see
is her reason for working
!
This
It's true please believe in her
It was just a friend from work that was with her on New Years Eve
!?
If I had only expressed it properly things wouldn't have turned out this way
But I never ever thought this'd wound Akio's heart instead

Hah
I need the money you see
You sure are a hard worker Boy
Although I'm not certain whether or not he'll forgive me I still have start doing my best now
Ah? What are you talking about?
Wow you students sure know how to live it up
I'm planning to take a trip to America in the summer

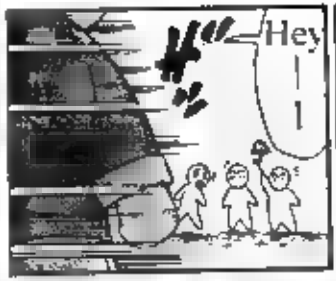

God
Please
bestow
blessings
upon me
New
Year's
Day
2001
Meet
up with
a very
wonder-
ful boy
friend
I wish that
I could
experience
a perfect
romance
this year
And
one more
thing
that
is
PART 8
Wish

PART8 Wish

Parted like the Red Sea

Uru-sai!
No-zomi
Nozo-mu'
O!--- Nozo-mu
People will think we're intimate or something'
Yuuya' Can you not call me so familiarly in front of everyone'
That accursed face of yours can help me part the crowd
What the heck'
Also! Don't keep walking behind me will you?! If you want walk ahead of me'
Come on--- Give it back'
And because our mothers were friends as well as neighbors we naturally became choldhood playmates
were born on the same day, the same hospital and made our first cries together 16 years ago
I, Yamashina Nozomi, together with Ubukata Yuuya

Just a mention of Yuuya's name, not just rascals
And then, ten years have passed---
but even the decent guys all keep their distance from me
They're too afraid
!!



Note: Ibukata Yuuya, age 5

Just a mention of Yuuya's name keeps any rascals from bullying me

Just a look at his face will strike fear in the hearts of his opponents

No matter what the time or place I'll come to your rescue

Yuuya. He's basically invincible

Call on me at once anytime you're in trouble

Starting the 21st century with an insult?
Your expression is as scary as ever
Hisashihun. Yuuya-kun
I already told you before. He's not my boyfriend!
How lucky ---going praying with your boyfriend. I'm envious
Huh?
The other group will be from Shinawaga University
Later on, we're conducting the first induction party of the 21st century
Eh?
Um. I'm just heading home after all. Why?
Oh yeah. Nozomi-chan, you free later?
Induction party?
Don't worry about him
Is this okay?!
No way!
Yes! Take me! You have to take me! *Have to!*
What do you say?
But we're still missing one person in the girl's side
Not at all!
Would Yuuya mind?
College students. Nothing's better--
This is the best opportunity ever
How could I let them slip?
This is just so right
goo-
As expected of Shinagawa!
Wow such high class
he's quite popular!
I'm sure
!!
Looks like I gotta put in a little effort

N-no way?! Let's run!
What's with the noise outside
Tenchou! I think I rembember that he's a fugitive
W-what's a scary appearance
How long is he gonna sabotage me before he'll be satisfied
How'd that guy get here too!
!?
You sang that song really well
Ah How lucky
This is the life that I've always wanted
Wow
Yay
Well, sang Nozomi-chan
The customer here has called and complained
What are you doing This isn't proper
Excuse me Sir!
Ah Nozomi---
It's nothing
Ah you actually remember my name? I'm glad
Ah No way Thus
You sang better than me Takamori-san
I was entranced listening to it
What of it?
Nozomi-chan let's go for a drive!
Wah!

I feel like I'm dreaming to be out with a guy as cool as Takamori-san
I feel blessed being able to go on a drive with a girl as pretty as you
Don't argue with me right now! Get off the car at once!
Wuwa What is it Causing a commotion like this
What? What are you talking about?
Nozomi? It's me!
Hello
Huh?
Ah
Excuse me I have to answer this
Huh
That Takamori is not some nice guy!

I'll take you on a seaside drive
We can go watch the sunrise together
I'd love that
!
Huh?
Don't judge a person on looks--
Dammit They actually took me to the precinct
No-zomi!
!?

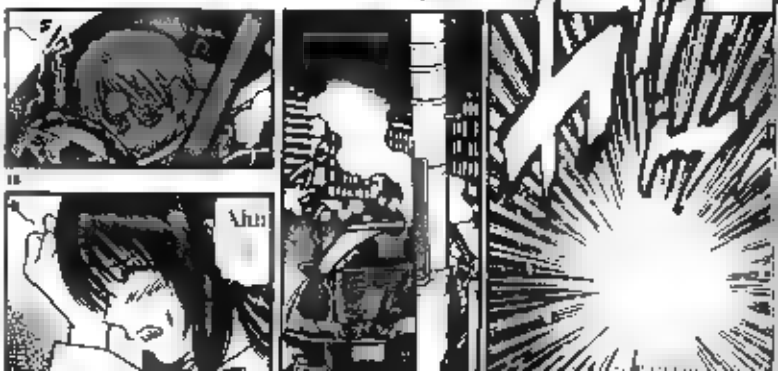
!?
I won't take it
Save me---!
---!
The only
W-What do you mean by
Don't call me back again!
throw ac-

Wah!
It's really scary!
Ku-
Guh
...
That's just perfect
Hey. You have your seatbelt on like a good boy
Ite!
Wah!
Huh
No-no-no excuse me I'm about to do some-thing rash
It'll also cause you pain!
My face is not only scary...
!?
Wah!
What
Watch me
Yuu
ya?!

Ah this to solve your dilemma
How can I be ok?! Why d you do something so crazy ?
After all We made an agreement A long time ago
Reflexes took over once you were in danger
You ok?
Oi Nozomu
Yuuya

Hu
'No matter what the time or place I'll come to your rescue

It was true before and it's still true now---
Looking at his face alone can fell opponents ---
Yuuya is my knight protector
I was so scared .


Ahn

[1]Note - The Japanese have a belief that
you'll spend the rest of the new year w
whomever you see the first sunrise with

I wish the rest of this year fares better

Though it was bad already on just the first day

Meet up with a very wonderful boy-friend!

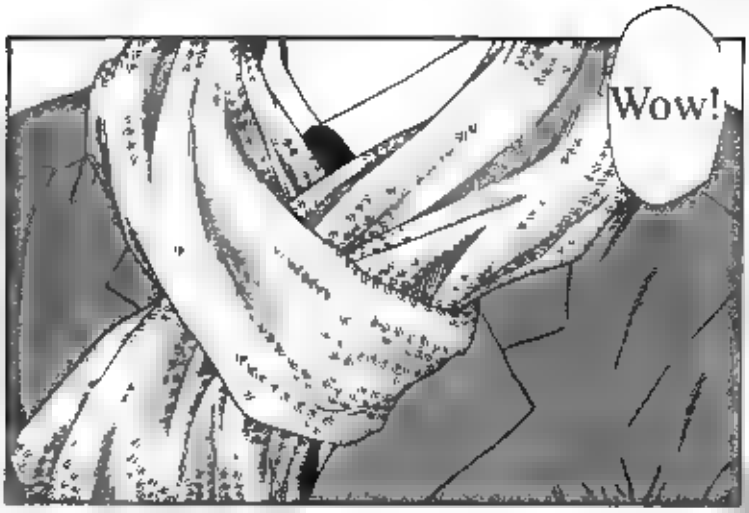
I wish I could experience a perfect romance this year

God

And

Whoa, the sun's coming up!

Nah, never-mind...



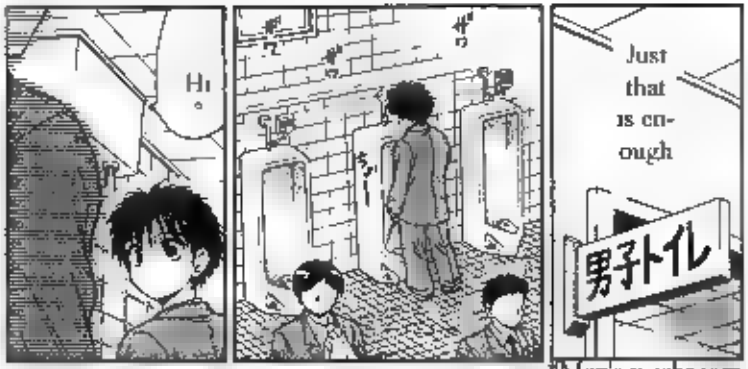
PART9

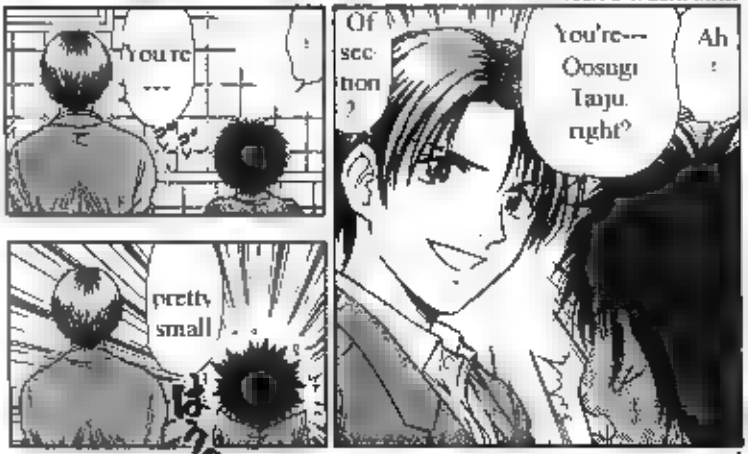
Resignation and Aspiration

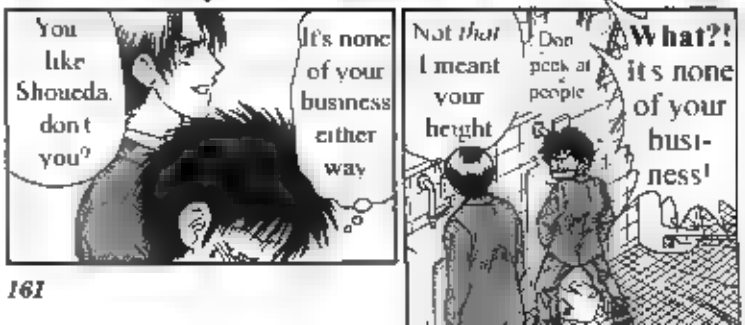
Strange! I clearly saw Taiju around here somewhere------
What a mistake
Shoueda You
Kya, here you were after all Taiju
I'm really sorry about that you're so small I didn't notice
You damned giant-ess!
What do you mean Shoueda Kozue! You giant!
What about you? Your name is Taiju, but it should be changed to Bonsai
Hi Shoueda
Note: The name puns: Oosugi Taiju is 'big cedar big tree' Shoueda Kozue is roughly 'treetop low to the ground'
Huh? Really? Why?
Hand-knit scarves ranks first among things guys don't like to receive as gifts the most
According to my research
Huh?
But speaking of scarves Taiju do you know?
Taiju!
Well
But is it really so?
Wow as expected of a journalist club member how thorough
In such a boring search
Because it's too much of a burden when you realize her heart is put into every knit
!?

It's said that Shimokawa Nobuo is currently dating Shoueda Kozue
Oi looks like that rumor was true!
!!
You are already in love with Shoueda Kozue!
Since 1st year junior high up till now!
---What!
What do you do now Taju?
According to the results of my investigation
You don't have to hide it
What? You didn't even try and you are giving up?
That's not it
What can I still do? I can only give up now
Well what do you plan to do now?
Wh-Where did you hear that from?

Shimokawa Nobuo of section 3 has some height to him too
It's really cold today
Ah. Shimokawa-san Ohayou!
Can you try putting this on for me?
What's up? Shoueda!
Huh?
Shimokawa-san, can you come with me for a bit?
Shoueda. This.
Mmm--The length's not enough once you tie it, is it?
!?
Shoueda
But, the white sure is fitting!


Hi
Just that is enough
男子トイレ
Men's washroom


You're ...
Of section?
You're--- Oosugi Taju, right?
Ah!
pretty small
ぱっ


You like Shoueda, don't you?
It's none of your business either way
Not that I meant your height
Don peek at people
What?! it's none of your business!

We're talking about Shoueda Kozue here
She'll never see a man shorter than her as a man

According to my research, Shoueda Kozue is 180cm (5'11") tall
Really?
And I'm only 159cm (5'2").
So I can only give up hope

I'm fine with just being her best guy friend.

Just being able to quibble with her be her best guy friend is enough.

Besides, I

Taiju
!
Odd?
Ah!
Strange? I remember seeing Taiju around here
I'm fine
What's happened?
What is it? Taiju, aren't you feeling well?
!!
You're currently knitting a scarf?
I hear ---
Huh?
Your boyfriend will get angry if you hang around me too much

Got it?
My scarf
!
we're currently dating
!!
Shoueda s currently knitting a scarf
Seeing her messing around with another guy
But, as her boyfriend, I can get envious
Who asked you to be so short
Forget it You can't possibly be in Shoueda's sights anyway
What are you trying to say?
Bye
If you want to have a match against me, grow another 20cm (8")
If you're just friends, maintain a friend's distance

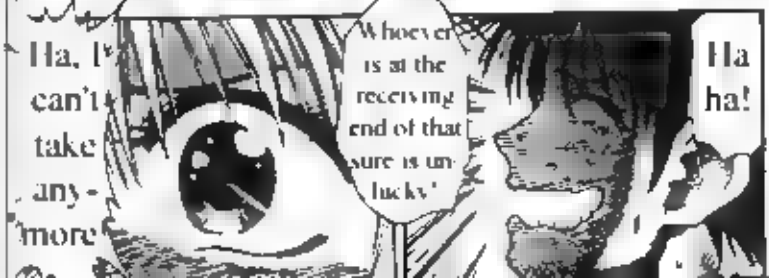
What the
What are you doing you grantess?
PREMIUM
!?
ばっ

Shou-eda?
!!
ギュ!!

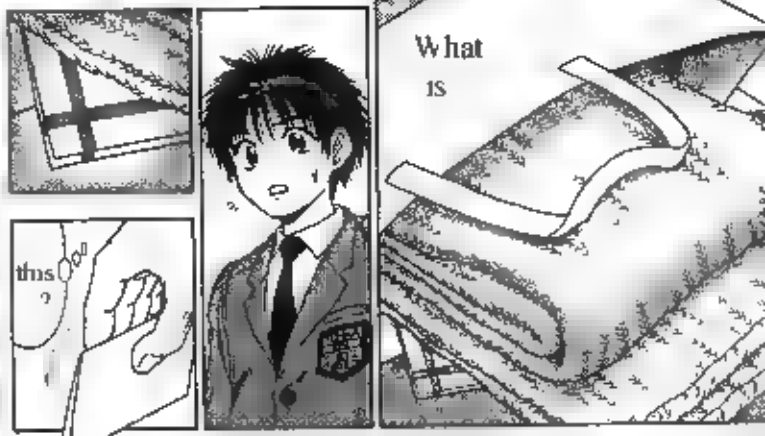
Don't tell me you don't know'
Huh ?
is the thing that guys dislike getting the very very most
A hand-knit scarf ---

Are you really this dumb?
No way ' How did you know ' Who did you hear it from

What's more. it's a scarf knitted by those weak, pale hands of yours
Just thinking about how a girl knits day and night imbuing every stitch with their feelings as if weaving some spell It's just so gross---
This kind of responsi-ility is too much of a burden


Ha, I can't take any-more
Whoever is at the receiving end of that sure is un-lucky'
Ha ha!

too late
The guy Shoueda really likes is
Don't be shocked when you hear this! The rumor about Shumokawa Nobuo dating Shoueda Kozue is actually a lie!
Huh?
..too late.
It's already...
NO MATTER HOW SHORT YOU MAY BE, SURELY IT SHOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT FOR YOU TO FIND OUT THAT I ACTUALLY LIKE YOU? PLEASE ACCEPT THIS SCARF
SHOUEDA "GIANTESS" KOZUE


What is this?

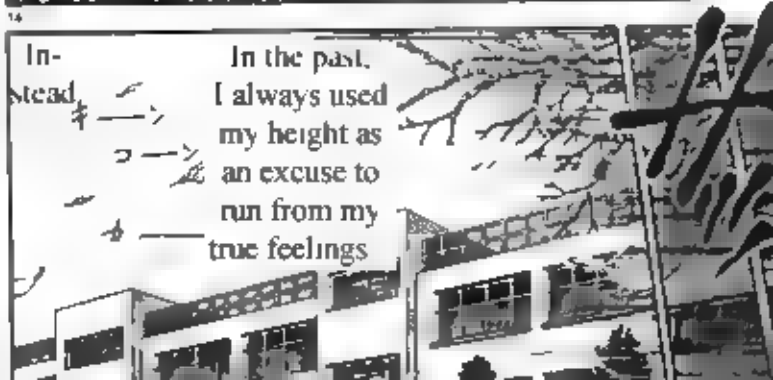
Huh? For me?
TO OOSUGI "TINY" TAIJU
A greeting card

Scoop! A big scoop!
Wah--- I found you! Taiju!
!?
Why would something be with the scarf?

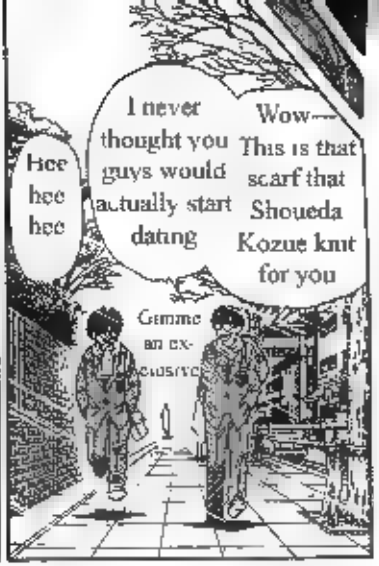
It's nothing
What's the matter? Shoueda, you don't look too upbeat
Uh
What is it Tom
If I only let my height..
..determine my guts, how can I live with that?

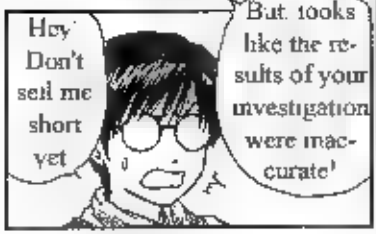
I already hurt her
It's too late now
It's already too late

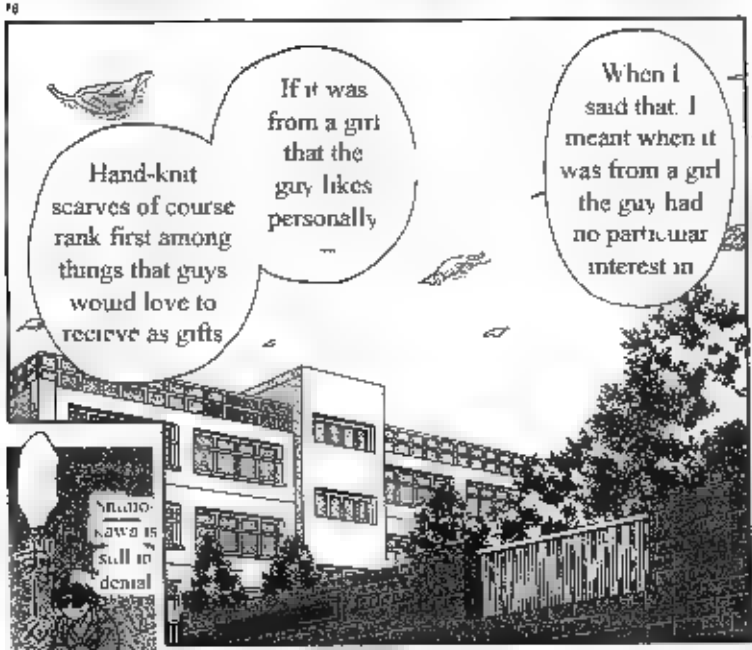
I can still make it!!


In the past, I always used my height as an excuse to run from my true feelings
Instead

Why is it with him?
!?
I won't ever run again!!



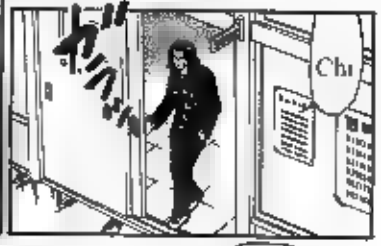




〈掲載：週刊少年サンデー平成12年49号より平成13年6号まで〉

PART10
Love and Friendship

*Disciplinary Office



Who asked you to be such a problem student?
Geez. it's so annoying It was just a little fight
Seems like you got quite an earful

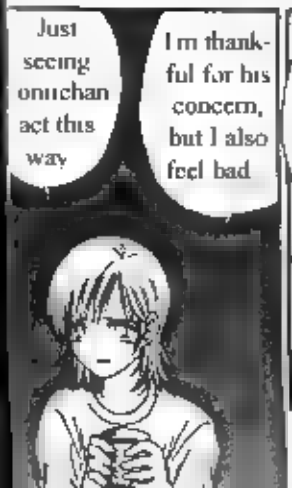
I, Takamatsu Hide, have been old friends with the Yasuda siblings for 10 years now
S- so, what ?!
Your deep love for your sister is as strong as ever
Please don't mind my business! Got it?
It's my decision whether to accept or reject
Geez really, I'm not a kid or anything!
What !
Ya !
Well
I don't need you to mind my business!
I heard it! You warded someone off for me How many times again! do I have to say it?
Onichan He beats people half to death just for confessing to me
Ah. Hide Hear me out
What's the matter Sachi ?
Rather I realized that she's already become a 'girl ----
I began not to see Sachi as Takeshi's little sister--
naturally all three of us were always together
Ever since we were little, Sachi always wanted to follow along behind me and Takeshi so
--I don't know when it started.
What's the best way to do this ?
But if this were to come to pass, surely I wouldn't be forgiven
I want to confess to her too-
And what's more ----
Onichan !
I'll beat up any guy that tries to come near Sachi! No exceptions!
In short !

Onnichan ought to know better
Then that means it's just the two of us right now?

She took overtime it'll be at least 8PM before she gets back
Where is your mom?

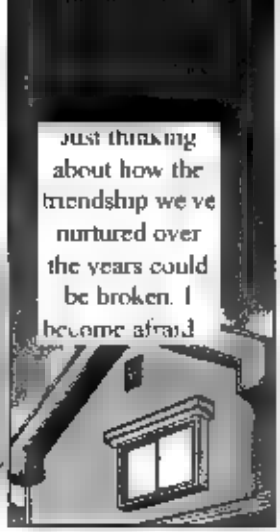
Going to work to help with the finances ...
Huh?

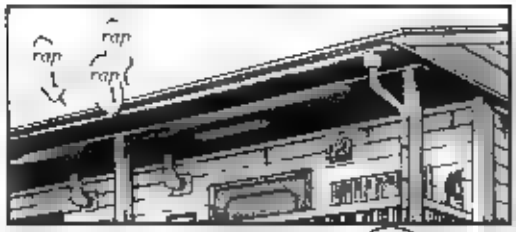
I feel that he should spend a little more time thinking of himself too


Just seeing onnichan act this way
I'm thankful for his concern, but I also feel bad

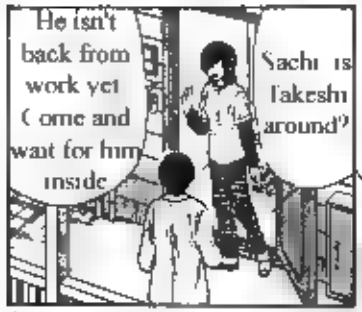
Acting like that to any man that tries to come near me, they're rooted from those standpoints, huh?
!

Standing in for our late father
Taking the stance of both father and brother

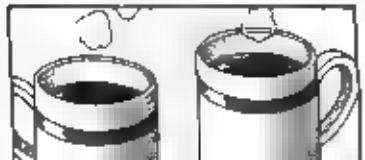

Just thinking about how the friendship we've nurtured over the years could be broken. I become afraid


rap
rap
rap

What way is there that I could be able to convey my feelings and yet not destroy my past friendship?


He isn't back from work yet Come and wait for him inside
Sachi is Takeshi around?

Ah. Hide



that since long ago
honestly have to tell you
Actually I--
Huh?
Wait a sec What's going on ?
Wait
I've thought of you as.

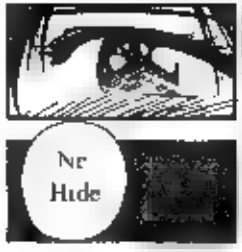
How can this be ?

Would you like some tea?
Ah, onn-chan, okaeri
Uh? Hide, you've come over?
Ta-dai-ma
Hello
Green Apple

It's only then that onnchan reverts to a regular high schooler
Anyways. I just like onnchan best when he's around you, Hide

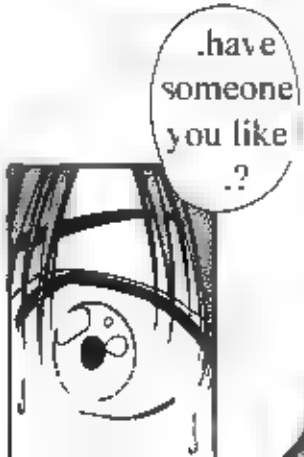
So let's get along better from now on

Ah sorry I didn't mean to lapse into meaningless chatter like that


Ne Hide

I still can't confess to her after all

I can do it
Yeah


.have someone you like .?

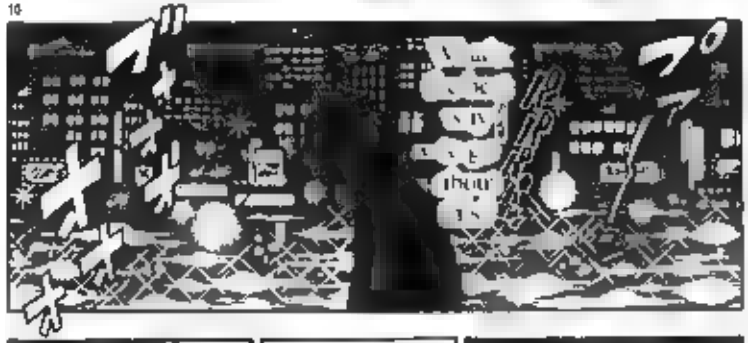
Hide, do you .

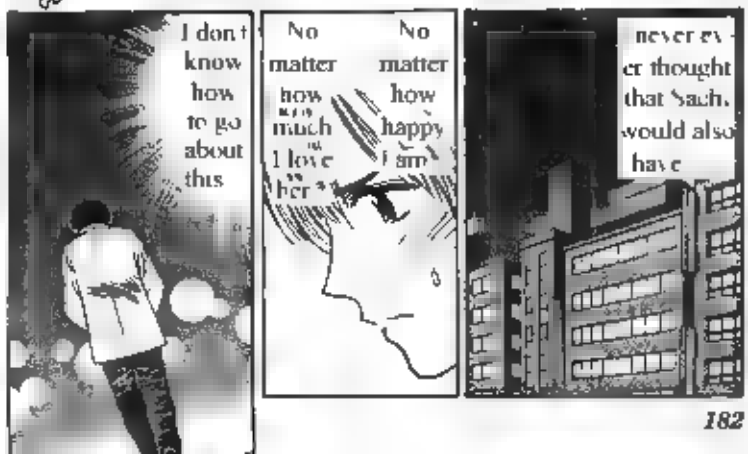
Why did you rush on home like that yesterday?
Oha- you
No particular reason.
Hide

Umm. I got cut off mid-sentence because my brother came back but

I can't return the feeling!
In the end
No matter how much I love her?
No matter how happy I am
feel about me?
Hide. What do you

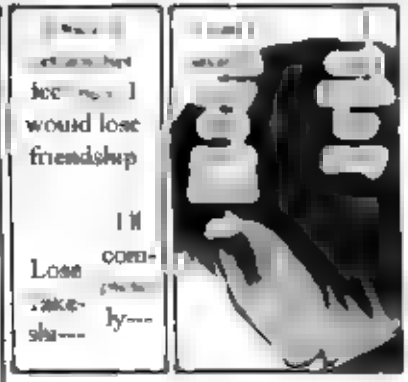
What's up! You're going back home already?
Ah...
Well it's about time for me to
What the? What did that guy come by for?

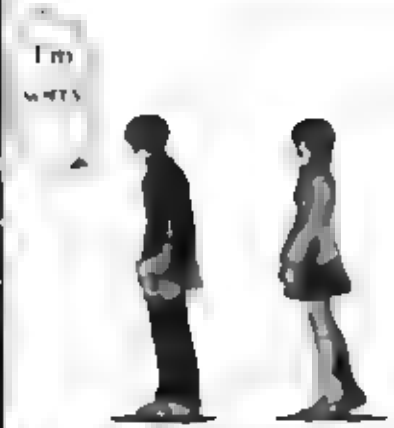


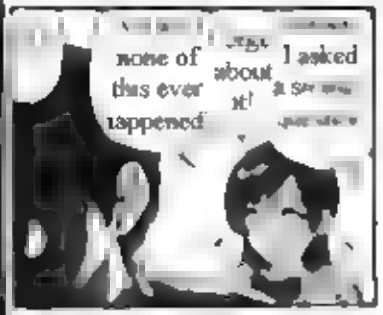

I don't know how to go about this
No matter how much I love her?
No matter how happy I am
never ever thought that Sachi would also have

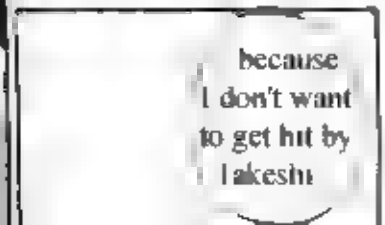
have such
a violent
brother

keeping two


I would lose
friendship
Lose
com-
ly---


I'm


none of
this ever
happened
about
it!
I asked


because
I don't want
to get hit by
Takeshi

cry like that ...!
actually made my precious sister
You.....
Although she never said it was very clear
has liked you a lot since a long time ago
My sister Sacha
Those pure feelings of hers
Just what the hell do you want me to do!
What the hell do you want!
I really don't get you!
You'd hit me if I got near You hit me for staying away
What the hell do you want!
How could you stomp on them like that!!

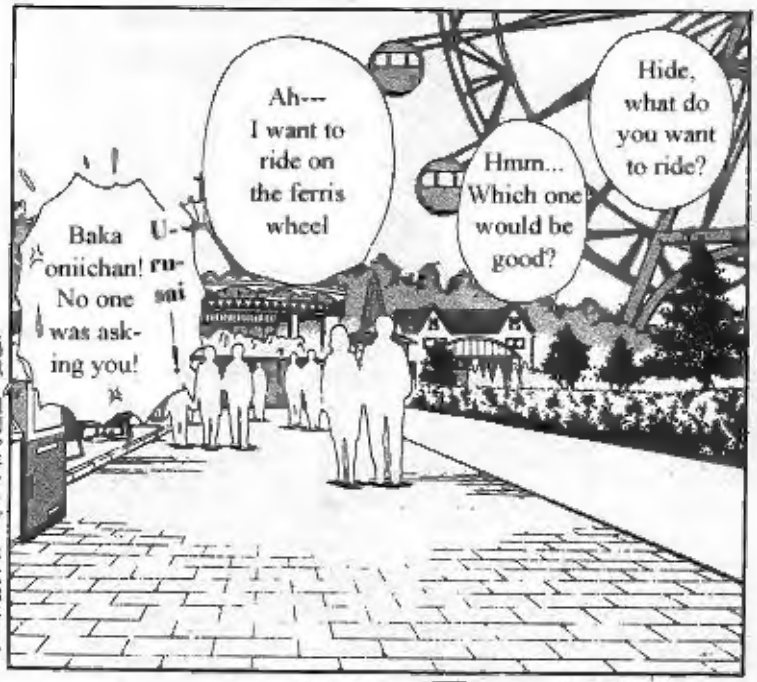
Takesh
!!?
Hide You bas-tard!

Yes! I love her!
Is that so wrong...?!
No need to be so sneaky anymore---
Hide... Do you like Sachi?
Being honest with everything, is what true friends are about..

Looks like our relationship has gotten even closer...
That way, I can't beat you up anymore
I felt that... It was only today, that we became the truest of friends.....
Then go and tell her, quickly

Huh?
Protecting her until I could hand her over to you
I'm just protecting her...

What in the world is going on here?
We were being so sneaky that we ironically ended up missing each other's intentions...
...Am I a dumb brother or what?
I was just waiting, waiting for you to like our Sachi, Hide
Not letting anyone but you get a hold of her
Just the thought of handing over my precious sister to anyone else sets my belly afire



〈週刊・週刊少年サンデー平成13年8号〉

PROFILE

猪熊 忍

INOKUMA Shinobu

On March 27, 2001, 7:23am,
I became a father!
In 1997, I decided to start 'Salad Days'. Back then I was just a bachelor... I never thought, 4 years later, I would have a kid and everything! More so after I recieved a letter from a sr. high student saying, "I've liked Salad Days a lot ever since jr. high", did I deeply feel the passing of 4 years... Anyway, I will continue working hard on 'Salad Days'!
In the future, my daughter might just read this manga. Will she also have dreams and anticipate romance when the time comes? This feeling leaves me... excited! (laughs)

我所迷戀的主角

MY FAVORITE GIRLS

SALAD DAYS

When taling about Julia Roberts, one will inevitably think of her famous, 'Pretty Woman'. Then what right do I have to write about her when I never watched 'Pretty Woman', or even 'Runaway Bride'... This is toubling, how am I going to be able to write on? But speaking of Julia Roberts, although she mostly stars in romantic comedies, ironically she has difficulties with love. So instead she just does her best in her work, but is unable to emulate her work. So what I mean is... this is just a 'rant'. It's not 'My Favorite Girls', but rather 'A Going-To-Be Favorite Girl'.
My apologies (bitter laugh).

Translator's note: I didn't understand the point too much so there's a strong possiblity of mistranslation with this